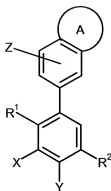


Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatom independently selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur, optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-6} alkyl, $-(CH_2)_k-C_{3-7}$ cycloalkyl, halogen, $-CN$, trifluoromethyl, $-(CH_2)_kOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_kCO_2R^3$, $-(CH_2)_kNR^3R^4$, ~~$-(CH_2)_kCONR^3R^4$~~ , ~~$-(CH_2)_kNHCOR^3$~~ , $-(CH_2)_kSO_2NR^3R^4$, $-(CH_2)_kNHSO_2R^3$, $-(CH_2)_kSO_2(CH_2)_mR^5$, a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C_{1-2} alkyl or $-(CH_2)_kCO_2R^3$, and a 5-membered heteroaryl ring optionally substituted by C_{1-2} alkyl; or

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatom independently selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur substituted by $-B^1R^6$, and A is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from $-OR^7$, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-CN$, $-CO_2R^7$ and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy; or

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatom independently selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur substituted by $-(CH_2)_n$ heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6} alkyl, OR^7 , $-NR^7R^8$ and $-CONR^7R^8$, and A is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from $-OR^7$, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-CN$, $-CO_2R^7$ and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy; or

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatom independently selected from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur substituted by $-(CH_2)_q$ aryl or $-(CH_2)_q$ heteroaryl wherein the aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, $-CN$, trifluoromethyl, $-OR^9$, $-(CH_2)_tCO_2R^{10}$, $-NR^9R^{10}$, $-(CH_2)_tCONR^9R^{10}$, $-NHCOR^9$, $-SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-NHSO_2R^9$ and $-S(O)_8R^9$, and A is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from $-OR^7$, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-CN$, $-CO_2R^7$ and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;

R^1 is selected from methyl and chloro;

R^2 is selected from $-NH-CO-R^{11}$ and $-CO-NH-(CH_2)_t-R^{12}$;

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by up to two OH groups, $-(CH_2)_k-C_3-7$ cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_k$ phenyl optionally substituted by R^{13} and/or R^{14} and $-(CH_2)_k$ heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{13} and/or R^{14} ,

R^4 is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl, or

R^3 and R^4 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N- R^{15} ;

R^5 is selected from C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by up to three halogen atoms, C_{2-6} alkenyl optionally substituted by phenyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, heteroaryl optionally substituted by up to three R^{13} and/or R^{14} groups, and phenyl optionally substituted by R^{13} and/or R^{14} ;

R^6 is a C_{3-6} alkyl group substituted by at least two substituents independently selected from $-OR^{16}$, $-NR^{16}R^{17}$, $-CO_2R^{16}$, $-CONR^{16}R^{17}$, $-NHCOR^{16}$ and $-NHSO_2R^{16}$;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^9 is selected from hydrogen, $-(CH_2)_u-C_3-7$ cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_u$ heterocyclyl, $-(CH_2)_u$ aryl, and C_{1-6} alkyl optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from $-OR^{18}$ and $-NR^{18}R^{19}$,

R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6} alkyl, or

R^9 and R^{10} , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N- R^{15} ;

R¹¹ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, -(CH₂)_t-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, -(CH₂)_vheteroaryl optionally substituted by R²⁰ and/or R²¹, and -(CH₂)_vphenyl optionally substituted by R²⁰ and/or R²¹;

R¹² is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, -CONHR²², phenyl optionally substituted by R²⁰ and/or R²¹, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R²⁰ and/or R²¹;

R¹³ and R¹⁴ are each independently selected from halogen, -CN, trifluoromethyl, nitro, C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, -CONR²²R²³, -COR²⁴, -CO₂R²⁴, and heteroaryl, or

R¹³ and R¹⁴ are linked to form a fused 5-membered heterocyclyl ring containing one heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹⁵, or a fused heteroaryl ring;

R¹⁵ is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

R¹⁶, R¹⁷, R¹⁸ and R¹⁹ are each independently selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl;

R²⁰ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, -(CH₂)_t-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl, -CONR²²R²³, -NHCOR²³, halogen, -CN, -(CH₂)_wNR²⁵R²⁶, trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more R²¹ groups, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R²¹ groups;

R²¹ is selected from C₁₋₆alkyl, C₁₋₆alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, and -(CH₂)_wNR²⁵R²⁶;

R²² and R²³ are each independently selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl, or

R²² and R²³, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹⁵, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C₁₋₆alkyl groups;

R²⁴ is C₁₋₆alkyl;

R²⁵ is selected from hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl and -(CH₂)_t-C₃₋₇cycloalkyl optionally substituted by C₁₋₆alkyl,

R²⁶ is selected from hydrogen and C₁₋₆alkyl, or

R²⁵ and R²⁶, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R¹⁵;

R²⁷ is hydrogen or C₁₋₆alkyl;

B¹ is selected from a bond, oxygen, NH and S(O)_x;

X and Y are each independently selected from hydrogen, methyl and halogen;

Z is selected from halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl and -OR²⁷;

k, m and w are each independently selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

n, q, r, s, t and x are each independently selected from 0, 1 and 2; and

u and v are each independently selected from 0 and 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen.

3. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is substituted by -(CH₂)_qaryl or -(CH₂)_qheteroaryl wherein the aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from oxo, C₁₋₆alkyl, halogen, -CN, trifluoromethyl, -OR⁹, -(CH₂)_rCO₂R¹⁰, -NR⁹R¹⁰, -(CH₂)_tCONR⁹R¹⁰, -NHCOR⁹, -SO₂NR⁹R¹⁰, -NHSO₂R⁹ and -S(O)_sR⁹.

4. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is methyl.

5. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R² is -CO-NH-(CH₂)_t-R¹².

6. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is hydrogen or fluorine.

7. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 which is
N-Cyclopropyl-3-[5-fluoro-3-(4-pyridinyl)-1*H*-indazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;
N-Cyclopropyl-3-[5-fluoro-3-(1-oxido-4-pyridinyl)-1*H*-indazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;
N-Cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-5-[5-fluoro-3-(4-pyridinyl)-1,2-benzisoxazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;
N-Cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-5-[5-fluoro-3-(1-oxido-4-pyridinyl)-1,2-benzisoxazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;
N-Ethyl-3-[5-fluoro-3-[6-(methyloxy)-3-pyridinyl]-1*H*-indazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;
3-[3-(6-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)-5-fluoro-1*H*-indazol-6-yl]-*N*-ethyl-4-methylbenzamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. (previously presented) A compound-which is:

N-cyclopropyl-3-[5-fluoro-3-(4-pyridinyl)-1*H*-indazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide; or

N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-5-[5-fluoro-3-(4-pyridinyl)-1,2-benzisoxazol-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;

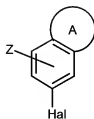
or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

9. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents and/or carriers.

10 to 13. (cancelled)

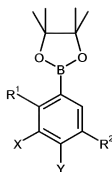
14. (previously presented) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises

(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)

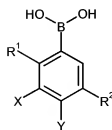


(II)

in which A is defined in claim 1 and Hal is halogen,
with a compound of formula (IIIA) or (IIIB)



(IIIA)



(IIIB)

in which R^1 , R^2 , X and Y are as defined in claim 1,

in the presence of a catalyst, or

- (b) final stage modification of one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 to give another compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1.

15. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 3 wherein A is substituted by $-(CH_2)_q$ heteroaryl wherein the heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6} alkyl, halogen, $-CN$, trifluoromethyl, $-OR^9$, $-(CH_2)_tCO_2R^{10}$, $-NR^9R^{10}$, $-(CH_2)_tCONR^9R^{10}$, $-NHCOR^9$, $-SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, $-NHSO_2R^9$ and $-S(O)_8R^9$.

16. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 15 wherein R^1 is methyl.

17. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 15 wherein R^2 is $-CO-NH-(CH_2)_t-R^{12}$.

18. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 15 wherein X is hydrogen or fluorine.
- 19 (Currently amended). A compound according to Claim 15 wherein the 5-membered ring fused to the phenyl ring is an ~~optionally substituted~~ indazole.
20. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 15 wherein the heteroaryl is a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl ring containing up to two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen.
21. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 20 wherein the heteroaryl ring is a pyridyl.
22. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 21 wherein q is 0.
23. (previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein Z is a halogen.
- 24 (previously presented). A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the 5-membered ring A fused to the phenyl ring is an optionally substituted isoxazolyl, indazole, pyrazolyl or pyrrolyl.